

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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APPROVED BY ARA - WILLIAM D. ROGERS
ARA -MR.LUERS
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S/S -JPMOFFAT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 177761 TOSEC 080101

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CU, US, PO

SUBJECT: BRIEFING MEMORANDUM: CASTRO'S JULY 26 SPEECH

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM ROGERS

SAN JOSE FOR AMBASSADOR MAILLARD

1. JULY 26, ANNUAL OCCASION FOR MAJOR PRONOUNCEMENT BY FIDEL CASTRO, WAS NOTABLE THIS YEAR ONLY BY WHAT CASTRO DID NOT SAY AND HIS RELATIVE BREVITY.
2. HE MADE NO REFERENCE TO CURRENT US POLICY OR THE OAS.
3. LAST YEAR, A VIETNAMESE DELEGATION SHARED THE PODIUM; THIS YEAR, PORTUGUESE TROIKA MEMBER CARVALHO TOOK PLACE OF HONOR. CASTRO DREW PARALLELS BETWEEN HIS REVOLUTION AND POST-APRIL 1974 PORTUGUESE DEVELOPMENTS, WARMLY PRAISED CARVALHO (WHO SPOKE EARLIER), AND GAVE
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CUBAN SUPPORT TO THE PORTUGUESE REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT.

4. BULK OF SPEECH WAS PRODUCTION FIGURE STATISTICAL
TOUR DE FORCE.

5. COMMENT: SETTING OF SPEECH, IN CAPITAL OF PROVINCE
WHERE BAY OF PIGS IS LOCATED, PROVIDED IDEAL OCCASION
FOR CASTRO TO BAIT U.S. HAD HE CHOSEN TO. THAT HE
AVOIDED COMMENTING ON THE U.S. AND THE OAS CLEARLY
REFLECTS CONCERN FOR US/OAS SENSIBILITIES AT THIS
TIME. INGERSOLL

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